

08CN8803-26

IN THE SPECIFICATION: Please amend the specification as follows:

A1  
[0009] Disclosed herein are data storage media as well as methods for making and processes for using the same. In one embodiment, the storage media comprises: a substrate comprising at least one a plastic resin portion, wherein the plastic resin portion comprises poly(arylene ether) and a styrene material selected from the group consisting of polystyrene, styrenic copolymer(s), and reaction products and combinations comprising at least one of the foregoing styrene material(s), and at least one a data layer on the substrate. The data layer can be at least partly read from, written to, or a combination thereof by at least one an energy field. Additionally, when the energy field contacts the storage media, that can have a thickness of about 0.8 millimeters (mm) to about 2.5 mm, the energy field is incident upon the data layer before it could be incident upon the substrate.

A2  
[0016] The substrate can comprise a single phase blend of poly(arylene ether) (PAE) and a styrenic material comprising polystyrene (PS) and/or a styrenic copolymer(s) (e.g., styrene-co-acrylonitrile (SAN) and/or styrene-co-maleic anhydride (SMA)). In one embodiment, the storage media comprises PAE with a weight average molecular weight of about 5,000 to about 50,000 and polystyrene with a weight average molecular weight of about 10,000 to about 300,000, wherein all molecular weight herein is given in atomic mass units (AMU) unless otherwise specified. Preferably, less than or equal to about 20 wt% of the PAE has a weight average molecular weight ( $M_w$ ) of less than or equal to about 15,000, with less than or equal to about 10 wt% preferred, and less than or equal to about 5 wt% especially preferred to obtain improvements in processibility and to tailor mechanical properties. The maximum radial tilt and tangential tilt are independently, preferably, no more than about 1° each, and more preferably less than about 0.3° each, measured in a resting state (i.e., not spinning). Additionally, the overall thickness typically employed is about 0.8 mm to about 2.5 mm.